State	Veteran population in thou- sands	No. of beds: NHC 2.5/1000	No. of beds: NHC 4/1000	No. of beds: Dom 2/1000
Kansas	282	705	1,128	564
Kentucky	359	898	1,436	718
Louisiana	417	1,043	1,668	834
Maine	154	385	616	308
Maryland	543	1,358	2,172	1,086
Massachusetts	666	1,665	2,664	1,332
Michigan	1,026	2,565	4,104	2,052
Minnesota	496	1,240	1,984	992
Mississippi	230	575	920	460
Missouri	629	1,573	2,516	1,258
Montana	100	250	400	200
Nebraska	178	445	712	356
Nevada	146	365	584	292
New Hampshire	146	365	584	292
New Jersey	875	2,188	3,500	1,750
New Mexico	170	425	680	340
New York	1,801	4,503	7,204	3,602
North Carolina	681	1,703	2,724	1,362
North Dakota	63	158	252	126
Ohio	1,296	3,240	5,184	2,592
Oklahoma	378	945	1,512	756
Oregon	356	890	1,424	712
Pennsylvania	1,508	3,770	6,032	3,016
Rhode Island	119	298	476	238
South Carolina	354	885	1,416	708
South Dakota	77	193	308	154
Tennessee	530	1,325	2,120	1,060
Texas	1,747	4,368	6,988	3,494
Utah	140	350	560	280
Vermont	64	160	256	128
Virginia	664	1,660	2,656	1,328
Washington	598	1,495	2,392	1,196
West Virginia	217	543	868	434
Wisconsin	561	1,403	2,244	1,122
Wyoming	54	135	216	108
Puerto Rico	124	310	496	248

Estimate as of March 31, 1989.

Source: Office of Reports and Statistics, VA. (Based on last available Bureau of the Census data.)

[45 FR 38357, June 9, 1980, as amended at 48 FR 1490, Jan. 13, 1983; 52 FR 23826, 23829, June 25, 1987; 56 FR 20353, May 3, 1991. Redesignated at 61 FR 21966, May 13, 1996]

§17.212 Scope of grants program.

(a) Subject to the availability of an appropriation, a grant may be made to a State which has submitted an application for assistance to construct (or to acquire) State home facilities (if the application has been approved by the Secretary) as prescribed in 38 U.S.C. 8131 through 8137 and §§17.210 through 17.216.

(b) The Department of Veterans Affairs may offer a State a grant which is less than the amount of the grant requested subject to the State's provision of assurance that adequate financial support will be available for the project and for its maintenance, repair, and operation when complete. If VA of-

fers a grant to a State for less than the amount requested and the State refuses to accept it, these Federal funds will be applied to other applications which have met all Federal requirements in the order of their priority on the list which was established by the Secretary under §17.213(d) of this part for that fiscal year.

(c) If a State accepts the grant for less than the amount requested, the State may request that its application for additional funds be ranked on the next priority list for additional Federal funds.

(d)(1) Notwithstanding paragraph (c) of this section and the provisions for ranking projects within a priority group in \$17.213(c)(3)(i), the Secretary shall give an application first priority within the priority group to which it is

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assigned on the list of projects established under §17.213(d) for the next fiscal year if:

- (i) The State has accepted a grant for that application as of August 15 of the current fiscal year that is less than the amount that the Secretary would have awarded if VA had sufficient grant funds to award the grant in such amount in that fiscal year; and
- (ii) The application is the lowest ranking application on the priority list for the current fiscal year for which grant funds are available as of August 15 of that year.
- (2) The Secretary shall not require a State to submit a second grant application for a project which receives priority under paragraph (d)(1) of this section but may require the State to update information already submitted in the application for the project. The Secretary shall determine the amount of a second grant at the time of the award of that grant. In no case shall the total amount awarded for the application exceed 65 percent of the total cost of the project as determined at the time of the second grant award for that grant application.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 8135(b))

[52 FR 23826, June 25, 1987, as amended at 56 FR 20354, May 3, 1991. Redesignated and amended at 61 FR 21966, 21968, May 13, 1996; 62 FR 60783, Nov. 13, 1997]

§17.213 Applications with respect to projects.

- (a) A State desiring to receive Federal assistance for construction or acquisition of a State home facility shall to the Secretary preapplication (if the need for Federal funding exceeds \$100,000) and an application for such assistance in compliance with the uniform requirements for grant-in-aid to State and local governments prescribed in the Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-102, Revised. The applicant will submit as part of the application or as an attachment thereto:
- (1) The amount of the grant requested with respect to such project which may not exceed 65 percent of the estimated cost of construction or acquisition and construction of such project.

- (2) A description of the site for such project.
- (3) Plans and specifications as required by 38 U.S.C. 8135 and 38 CFR 17.210 through 17.216.
- (4) Any comments or recommendations made by appropriate State (and areawide) clearinghouses pursuant to policies outlined in Executive Order 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs (part 40 of this chapter).
- (5) The State application for Federal assistance shall include environmental documentation for the project by submitting a Categorical Exclusion (CE), Environmental Assessment (EA), or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The environmental documentation will require approval by the Department of Veterans Affairs before final award of a construction or acquisition grant for a State veterans home. (See §26.6 of this chapter for compliance requirements.) If the proposed actions involving construction or acquisition do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment, the applicant shall submit a letter noting a Categorical Exclusion. If construction outside the walls of an existing structure will involve more than 75,000 gross square feet (GSF), the application shall include an environmental assessment to determine if an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary for compliance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. When the application submission requires an environmental assessment, the State shall briefly describe the possible beneficial and/or harmful effect which the project may have on the following impact categories:
 - (i) Transportation;
 - (ii) Air quality;
 - (iii) Noise;
 - (iv) Solid waste:
 - (v) Utilities;
- (vi) Geology (soils/hydrology/flood plains);
 - (vii) Water quality;
 - (viii) Land use;
- (ix) Vegetation, wildlife, aquatic, and ecology/wetlands;
 - (x) Economic activities;
 - (xi) Cultural resources;
 - (xii) Aesthetics;